

**Title Page:**

STRATEGIC PLAN

FOR

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail

OCTOBER 1, 2005 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

It is the mission of the National Park Service to preserve the remnants of the historic route of the 1804-1806 Corps of Discovery Expedition located along the Lewis and Clark National Historic trail, and to provide a comprehensive interpretation of its history, including the American Indian perspective, to allow for better visitor understanding and appreciation of its significance.



## Results Act and Planning Cycle:

### PREFACE

This five-year Strategic Plan has been written for one or more units of the greater National Park System administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The National Park System preserves outstanding representations of America's natural, cultural, and recreational resources of national significance. These resources constitute a significant part of America's heritage, character, and future. The National Park Service not only directly and indirectly preserves these national treasures; it also makes them available to millions of visitors from throughout the country and the world every year.

This Strategic Plan was written to fulfill the requirements of Section 104 of the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998. This legislation requires all field units of the National Park System prepare Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans consistent with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 and make these documents available to the public. The law was a catalyst for our staff to examine its fundamental mission and to take a fresh, longer range view, in precise terms, of what results or outcomes we needed to achieve to more effectively and efficiently accomplish that mission.

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) is one of the most recent and comprehensive of a number of laws and executive orders directing federal agencies to join the "performance management revolution" already embraced by private industry and many local, state, and national governments. Performance management ensures that daily actions and expenditure of resources are guided by long- and short-term goal setting in pursuit of accomplishing an organization's primary mission, followed by performance measurement and evaluation. Importantly, GPRA mandates that long-term and annual goals be results or outcomes rather than outputs (activities, products, or services) and that they be "objective, quantifiable, and measurable" so that performance can be adequately measured and reported, and progress on mission accomplishment assessed.

GPRA requires federal agencies to develop and use three primary documents in conducting their business. These documents are also to be submitted to the Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB):

1. Strategic Plan of no less than five years duration, reviewed and revised every three years, and containing:

- \* mission statement based in law, executive order, etc.;
- \* long-term goals, which are objective, quantified, and measurable, to accomplish mission;
- \* how goals will be accomplished, is the plan data and narrative showing "...operational processes, skills and technology, and the human, capital, information and other resources required to meet those goals...";
- \* relationship of annual goals to long term goals, a description of how long term goals are carried out in annual goal increments;
- \* key external factors which could positively or negatively affect goal accomplishment;
- \* GPRA also requires consultation with affected and interested parties in the development of the Strategic Plan, and it requires that the plan be
- \* developed by federal employees (versus contractors, etc.).

2. Annual Performance Plan tiered off the Strategic Plan each year, showing how long term goals will be accomplished in annual increments, and containing:

- \* annual goals to incrementally achieve long-term goals in Strategic Plan;
- \* annual work plan explaining how annual goals will be accomplished - "briefly describe the operational processes, skills and technology, and the human, capital, information and other resources required to meet the performance goals...." and
- \* basis for measuring results - "...provide a basis for comparing actual program results with the established performance goals...."

3. Annual Performance Report reviewing each year's successes and failures and identifying areas where activities

or goals need to be revised in the future, addressing:

- \* what annual goals were met or exceeded;
- \* what annual goals were not met;
- \* why annual goals were not met; and
- \* what remedial action will be taken for goals not met.

## ABOUT THIS PLAN

In consultation with Congress, OMB and other interested parties, the National Park Service (NPS) developed its own GPRA implementation process. In 2004 the Department of the Interior (DOI) produced a Strategic Plan requiring all agencies in the Department to be aligned with. It is available on the Internet at [http://www.doi.gov/ppp/strat\\_plan\\_fy2003\\_2008.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/ppp/strat_plan_fy2003_2008.pdf).

Individual park plans address the long-term goals in the NPS and DOI plans that are appropriate to the individual units as parts of the overall National Park System and its mission. Then they add goals specific to their own legislative mandates, missions, resources, visitor services, and issues. The park plans, then, are a blend of national and local priorities and goals.

This Strategic Plan follows that pattern. It contains a mission statement born out of the NPS organic act as well as the specific legislation or proclamation establishing the park. It contains mission goals, closely paralleling the "servicewide" mission goals that illustrate in broad brushstroke what we do far beyond five years - "in perpetuity" - to accomplish our stated mission. It then contains long-term goals, which target in quantifiable, measurable ways what we will accomplish in the next four years toward achieving our overall mission goals and mission. The long-term goals address both appropriate "servicewide" goals as well as park-specific outcomes. The goal numbering protocol follows that of the NPS plan with park-specific suffixes. Since not all servicewide goals apply to every park, some numbers may be skipped. In addition, there are numbers containing 0's which are not in the servicewide plan and indicate park-specific goals.

Each long-term goal is repeated with one or more explanatory paragraphs that give background, detail, and other information useful to help the reader understand the goal as well as to sketch in how the goal will be accomplished. The figures in the tables and narrative for each goal contain any general information about "How Goals will be Accomplished", including staffing, fiscal, infrastructure, and other resources available to achieve the plan's long-term goals.

It should be noted that the goals in this plan are generally predicated on "flat budgets". Other than increases for inflation, we assumed no major increases in funding. Where increases in appropriations are known or are likely, they were taken into account. Where other funding sources (donations, fee revenues, etc.) are "reasonably assured", they too are taken into consideration when setting performance targets. Obviously, limits on funding constrain what can be accomplished toward our goals and mission. GPRA, however, is distinctly not about discussing budget shortfalls or requesting or justifying additional funding. Rather it is about planning, managing, and communicating what we can accomplish with the resources we already have while at the same, providing accountability for those resources.

Each year that the Strategic Plan is in effect, there will be a companion Annual Performance Plan which shows in annual goals, that year's targeted incremental achievement of each long-term goal, and a work plan for accomplishing that increment. Each year there will also be an Annual Performance Report discussing actual achievement of the prior year's annual goals and progress on long-term goals.

Copies of this Strategic Plan can be requested from the superintendent. Questions and comments are welcome and encouraged and can be addressed to the superintendent. Copies of the most current Annual Performance

Plan and Annual Performance Report are also available on request, with questions and comments equally welcome.

## **Park Background Information:**

### About the Park

The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail stretches 3,700 miles from Wood River Illinois to Oregon, including the outbound and inbound segments. For further information, see [www.nps.gov/lecl](http://www.nps.gov/lecl). The trail preserves and protects the remnants of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Expedition from Illinois to Oregon in perpetuity and makes this valuable part of America's heritage available to hundreds of thousands of visitors each year for their experience, enjoyment, understanding, and appreciation. The headquarters for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is located at 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, NE 68102. The headquarters visitor center is being developed to provide a park-like experience with waysides, exhibits, and interpretive programs. Currently, the Trail also has staff duty-stationed at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park in Oregon, Mount Rushmore National Memorial, the US Forest Service's Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Great Falls, Montana, and the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska. For the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, the Trail has a staff of 15 operating the traveling exhibit "Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future," along the trail from Monticello to Oregon, and returning to St. Louis, Missouri, in September 2006.

The mission of the National Park Service at the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is rooted in and grows from the park's legislated mandate found in the Act of Congress "The National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-625." Our mission statement is a synthesis of this mandated purpose, plus the trail's primary significance as itemized below.

It is the mission of the National Park Service to preserve the remnants of the historic route of the 1804-1806 Corps of Discovery Expedition located along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, and to provide a comprehensive interpretation of its history, including the American Indian perspective, to allow for better visitor understanding and appreciation of its significance.

Vision: The Trail is committed to building true relations with all people, to learn from them, and to tell their stories with sensitivity and respect while working to preserve and protect our natural and cultural heritage for future generations.

Legislative Intent: The National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-625, requires the National Park Service to provide for administration of the Trail; coordinate jurisdictional responsibilities; provide or arrange for research; and provide for public use and enjoyment of the Trail and its resources.

Purpose: The purpose of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is to review all Trail management and use plans; assist in the implementation of the recommendations for the historic sites and segments; review all applications seeking to have sites or segments certified as Trail components; regularly monitor the status of all sites and segments; coordinate development and issuance of Trail regulations; provide for basic historical and archeological research; review development proposals which may adversely affect the Trail; coordinate marking of the Trail route; encourage establishment of Trail organizations in each Trail state to implement and protect the Trail; and provide for interpretive publications for distribution at interpretive centers and other visitation points.

Significance: The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail interprets the role of the original Corps of Discovery in European American exploration of the American West; interprets the traditions and lifeways of the American Indians before, during, and after the Corps of Discovery; and provides numerous opportunities at many locations

across the nation for visitor use and enjoyment of our cultural and natural heritage.

#### Key External Factors Affecting Plan's Accomplishment

While Trail management and staff can plan, manage, and largely control much of what occurs along the Trail, other things they can only influence, especially those external to Trail boundaries. Some things, such as natural events, they have no control over whatsoever. In developing Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail's Strategic Plan and its long-term goals, it was important to take into consideration key external factors that could negatively or positively affect goal outcomes. A few of the most important or most likely are identified briefly below. This is by no means an exhaustive list but simply those that are most likely to influence outcomes as viewed at the time of writing the plan.

- Positive Factors: strong and proactive Congressional, federal, tribal, national, state, and local partners and a keen national public interest in the story and in interpretive and recreational opportunities.

- Potential Factors: Congressional and partner interest in legislation to expand the Trail to include the "Eastern Legacy" portion from Monticello to Wood River, Illinois; decreases in Challenge Cost Share funding and our ability to financially assist partners' efforts; and dealing with Trail resources when partners' efforts are not financially sustainable. Reactions to and outcomes of the 5-year project to update the 1982 Comprehensive Management Plan.

- Negative Factors: incompatible/inappropriate development along the Trail; the introduction and spread of invasive plant and animal species; incompatible river management features or practices; and continually declining water and air quality.

#### Consultation in Plan Preparation

GPRA requires that Congress, OMB, and other interested and affected parties be consulted in the development of Strategic Plans. Congress and OMB, as well as the Department of the Interior, were extensively consulted in the development of the DOI and NPS servicewide plan. The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail did not previously produce a Strategic Plan. During Fiscal Year 2005, this new Strategic Plan will be shared with Trail partners and the public and revised as appropriate.

**Strategic Plan Preparers** The following park staff members were intimately and extensively involved in preparing this strategic plan: Stephen E. Adams, Superintendent.

The Trail GPRA Coordinator is the Budget Assistant.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 27, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: lb4C

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: lb4C

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

NPS admin Historic and Scenic Trails

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2008, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail outside park units has worked to meet a functioning base level of development and operations through partnerships as determined using the benchmarks established for national trails operations.

Target  
Year:

2008

Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):

Meet heritage resource  
objectives

Unit Measure:

Each

Condition (Desired):

Good

Total # Units in  
Baseline:

0

Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):

0

5-Year Results Plan:

For the Fiscal Years 2005-2008 for GPRA Goal lb4C, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (LECL) will work toward satisfying the legislative intent and purpose outlined and described in the 1982 Comprehensive Management Plan and in the "About the Park" section of the Strategic Plan.

To assist and guide this effort, LECL (the Trail) has adopted the following benchmarks, which will form the basis of the Annual Performance Plans.

These benchmarks are somewhat different from those established at the beginning of the performance year. They were developed by a committee of trail managers and the National Trails Program Office.

Benchmarks to Assess Base Level of Operations Through Partnerships:

Identity: Trail users, partners, nearby communities, and relevant state agencies recognize the national trail as a distinct entity. (Requires a corridor-wide sampling survey of these audiences; %s reflect those who positively identify the trail's existence.)

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - - 0

or \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

Partnerships: Partnerships are established and maintained through formal agreements with appropriate Federal agencies, major trail organizations, and States or key state agencies. In addition, an ongoing program of developing additional partnerships with individuals, organizations, and local agencies is in place.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 27, 2006

\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Visitor experience: Visitors understand and appreciate the significance of the trail they are visiting. They have gained different perspectives about the trail's legacy. They appreciate and respect the rights of private landowners along the trail. (Requires visitor survey. Should only be used if the Identity measure above exceeds 50% or is answered "yes")

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - 25% - - - - 0

Signs and Markers: The designated trail route (in the case of the NHTs, the auto tour route) is marked with the trail's official logo (or blaze) as outlined in the trail's CMP.

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - 25 % - - - - 0

(NHTs only): All historic trail sites (including historic, interpretive, and recreational) are marked with the trail's official logo and appropriate site information.

100% - - - 75% - - - - 50 % - - - - - 25 % - - - - 0

(NHTs only): Directional signing to trailheads, access points, and retracement routes are well signed to provide visitors clear instruction from the auto tour route in order to find trail-related sites and segments.

100 % - - - - - 50 % - 40 % - - - - - 0

Protection: The trail's natural and cultural resources have been mapped, inventoried, and evaluated using standardized methods.

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - - 25 % - - - 0

or \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Basic and accurate trail mapping has been accomplished for the trail. GIS/GPS work can begin if funding is available. \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Compliance: An established procedure is in place to accomplish environmental and historic preservation compliance for trail projects and to review projects by other agencies. Working relationships are established with State Historic Preservation Offices and mitigation actions can be taken on known threats to trail resources.

\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

The trail's non-Federal trail sites receive some level of protection from adverse impacts by the owner/manager that is appropriate under current land use management requirements (Measure % of the number of known non-Federal trail-related sites.)

100% - - - - - 50% - - - 30% - - - - - 0

The trail's non-Federal trail segments receive some level of protection from adverse impacts by the owner/manager that is appropriate under current land use management requirements (Measure % of the miles of known trail segments.)



## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 27, 2006

100% - - - - - 50% - - - 30% - - - - - 0

Commensurate with the mission of the land managing bureaus, Federal lands underlying this trail are protected from overuse, inappropriate uses, vandalism, and other adverse influences.

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - - 0

Note: All qualifying Federal trail segments are recognized as "Federal Protection Components" and should be managed according to NTSA authorities under the direction of the trail's CMP.

Information Services: All visitors can easily obtain trail travel information, historic and resource information, and key trail documents and messages along the trail, from the web, and through other sources as appropriate.

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - - 0

Interpretation: All visitors can easily connect to interpretive materials and events relating to the entire trail, learning about its primary themes, and deepening their understanding of its significance. (requires visitor survey)

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - - 20% - - - 0

or \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

Certification and Other Site and Segment Recognition: Partnerships have been established and documented with qualifying non-Federal sites and segments through certification, cooperative agreements, memorandums of understanding, or other methods.

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - - 0

Note: These partnerships may be documented in various ways, including cooperative agreements, MOUs, certification, interpretive plans, site plans, challenge cost-share agreements, training for partners, delegation of responsibility to trail partners, and even volunteer agreements with landowners.

All appropriate trail sites and segments have been evaluated for eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and all found eligible have been nominated, with the concurrence of the landowners, and placed on the Register.

100% - - - - - 50% - - - - - 25 % - - - 0

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 18, 2006

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* Ila2A

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* Ila02

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

The number of visitor accident/incidents will be at or below 4,969 accidents/incidents.

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2008, the number of visitor accidents/incidents at the Lewis and Clark NHT headquarters visitor center is at or below 4.48 per 100,000 visitor days.

*Target  
Year:*

2008

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

*Unit Measure:*

*Condition (Desired):*

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

Accidents/incidents

Each accident/incident

Reduced

0

*5-Year Results Plan:*

Park visitors are defined as those who visit the Corps of Discover II mobile exhibit or the Lewis and Clark NHT headquarters. The Corps II exhibit has been operational since January 2003 and will continue its tour through September 2006. The park headquarters building was opened in July of 2004 and visitation has yet to fully develop. To date the park has not had any reportable visitor accidents. The park's goal is to maintain the no-accident status through a park-wide safety program. Efforts toward this goal include CPR/AED training for all employees, EMS/Fire/Security procedures, visitor safety printed material, safety messages on park web site, and safety messages at all interpretive programs.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 18, 2006

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* Ila2B

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* Ila02B

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

The number of servicewide visitor fatalities will be at or below 120.

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2008, the number of visitor fatalities at Lewis and Clark NHT will remain at zero.

*Target  
Year:*

2008

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Fatalities

*Unit Measure:*

Each fatality

*Condition (Desired):*

Reduced

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

0

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

See Ila02A.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 27, 2006

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVa3

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVa3A

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

100% of NPS employees have performance plans linked to appropriate park (office) strategic goals and annual goals

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2008, 100% of LECL's employee performance plans are linked to appropriate strategic and annual performance goals and position competencies.

*Target  
Year:*

2008

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Employee performance plans

*Unit Measure:*

Each employee

*Condition (Desired):*

Linked to goals

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

26

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

26

*5-Year Results Plan:*

All employee performance plans will be linked to appropriate strategic and annual performance goals. This goal will be measured annually by supervisors/managers when performance plans are developed and implemented.

NOTE: Units in the baseline have changed as Corps II staff and HQ staff levels have increased. The Corps II project is staffed primarily with term employees. FY 2006 is the last year for Corps II, thus the number of employees will decrease about 50% for FY 2007 and beyond.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 18, 2006

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVa6A

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVa6A

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

The NPS rolling 5-year (previous 5 years) average number of employee accidents will be at or below 716.

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2004, the Lewis and Clark NHT 5-year rolling average for the employee lost time injury rate will be at or below 3.35 injuries per 200,000 labor hours worked.

*Target  
Year:*

2008

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Incidents

*Unit Measure:*

Each incident resulting in  
injury

*Condition (Desired):*

Reduced

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

0

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

0

*5-Year Results Plan:*

Lewis and Clark NHT has had one lost-time injury during the past (FY 2005). Routine safety briefings held daily at the Corps II mobile exhibit, the appointment of a Safety Officer, and an active headquarters safety committee have contributed to a safer working environment. Inspections have resulted in the identification and subsequent correction of safety and health hazards. Each supervisor also has safety as part of their critical performance standards. LECL will continue to work to improve and enhance employee safety.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 18, 2006

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVa6B

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVa6B

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

The servicewide Continuation of Pay (COP) hours will be at or below 55,335 hours.

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2008, the number of LECL hours of Continuation of Pay is maintained at 0.

*Target  
Year:*

2008

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

COP hours

*Unit Measure:*

Each COP hour

*Condition (Desired):*

Reduced

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

0

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

0

*5-Year Results Plan:*

See IVa6A.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 18, 2006

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVa6C

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVa6C

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

The NPS number of employee fatalities

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

See IIa02.

*Target  
Year:*

2008

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Fatalities

*Unit Measure:*

Each fatality

*Condition (Desired):*

Reduced

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

0

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

0

*5-Year Results Plan:*

See IVa6A.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 27, 2006

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: IVb1A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: IVb01A

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

NPS units have X community partnerships designed to enhance the park's ability to manage recreation activities seamlessly.

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2008, Lewis and Clark NHT has 64 community partnerships designed to enhance the Trail's ability to manage recreation activities seamlessly.

*Target  
Year:*

2008

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

*Unit Measure:*

*Condition (Desired):*

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

Park Partnerships

Each partnership

Established

0

0

*5-Year Results Plan:*

The Trail currently partners with many federal, tribal, state, county, local, and private organizations and individuals. Through the auspices of the Bicentennial and the new Comprehensive Management Plan project, the kinds and numbers of partnerships will continue to expand. Administration of the Trail is founded on the principles of partnerships and civic engagement, and the new CMP will address alternative ways to formalize partnership types and the partnership as a whole.

Community partnerships are important to Trail operations in Omaha as a new visitor services program is developed over the next three years. The Trail staff has been charged with designing and implementing a park-like interpretive presence, with visitor facilities and services, in the Carl T. Curtis building within the Midwest Regional Office. With this new "park" comes many opportunities for partnerships as they relate to support of visitor services.

The first milestone of this goal was to build a partnership with Western National Parks Association. WNPA serves as the Cooperating Association to provide educational sales items related to the National Park Service and the Trail. The relationship is expected to evolve to include staffing and specialty signature items.

Other potential partnerships include a local Friends Group, the Omaha Parks and Recreation Department, other local museums, and educational institutions.

A Friends Groups will become critical to the Trail mission and to assist with grants and fund raising. Currently the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation is a prime candidate for serving this role for the Trail as a whole, but not particularly for the Omaha operations. A local Friends Group would focus on the Omaha operations.



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Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 27, 2006

The Omaha Parks and Recreation Department is also a potential partner as the new Trail facilities are adjacent to Omaha City Property. This partnership could be mutually beneficial in building visitor programs and special events.

Educational Institutions are an obvious partnership category worth pursuing. National Seminars and conferences can be jointly hosted by the NPS and the institutions. Also, the potential benefits in research and support for trailwide programs is tremendous. As the Trail enters the planning stages of Civil Discourse programming, the University of Nebraska at Omaha could become a critical partner. Currently, the UNO has a Civil Dialogue Studies Program which would be an excellent program to partner with for interns, programs, and training.

The number of partnerships will decrease with the end of the Bicentennial and the anticipated elimination of the Lewis and Clark-specific Challenge Cost Share funding in FY 2007; the number of partnerships will then most likely vary from year to year.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008

Park/ Program Name: LEWIS & CLARK NHT

Park/ Program Org Code: 6490

Date Last Updated: January 18, 2006

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVb2

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVb02

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

8% increase in attendance at facilitated programs (from 147 million to 159 million)

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2008, attendance at Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail facilitated programs in Omaha will increase 1,000% from 0 in FY1999-FY2003 to 1,000.

*Target  
Year:*

2008

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

*Unit Measure:*

*Condition (Desired):*

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

Facilitated programs

Each visitor

attended

0

*5-Year Results Plan:*

The traveling Bicentennial exhibit "Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future" has served several hundred thousand visitors with facilitated programs over the past two years and will reach additional visitors during its final tour in FY 2006.

The numbers of visitors attending facilitated programs in the Omaha visitor center is currently very low. Visitation is likely to increase as more services are offered and as the public is more aware of facilities and services.

As the program builds in Omaha, the Visitor Services staff, along with local Trail partners and the public information officer, will work to highlight the new exhibits and the interpretive opportunities in and around the Omaha region. Press conferences, newspaper articles, and a regular listing of ranger programs will contribute to the efforts of this goal.

In FY 06 the visitor services staff will work with the DOT of Iowa and Nebraska for signage to direct visitors off the highway system to the building location. Also, the staff will work with the Omaha Parks and Recreation staff to assure that the NPS is listed on signage for the river front.

Efforts will also go toward a listing of activities, programs, and special events on the Trail's website, the Trail's newsletter, local publications, and internal email systems. The Education Specialist will work closely with the educational community to highlight the program offerings and will develop a reservation system for school field trips.

## **Strategic Plan Report, FY 2005-2008**

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